

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

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1993 Legislative Update

The following includes those bills which were passed in the 1993 legislative session and have been signed by the Governor.

Public Act 93-367 AAC the Recycled Content of Paper Purchased by the State and Improvement of Recycling Markets

Directs the state to establish a minimum postconsumer content for purchases of recycled paper consistent with U.S. EPA guidelines, effective August 1, 1994. Revises state procurement guidelines for other materials to incorporate U.S. EPA guidelines for minimum recycled content. These guidelines will favor recycled products and materials when available. State agencies may not exceed an aggregate 10% price preference for all purchases of recycled materials in any fiscal year.

Public Act 93-423: AAC the State Recycling Goal (hb 5922)

Revises subsection (a) of section 22a-241b to increase the state goal of recycling to 40% by January 1, 2000. It is the intent of the legislature that this additional 15% reduction be achieved through recycling and source reduction or a combination of both. This legislation does not require municipalities to enforce source reduction. Section 2 stipulates that, after October 1, 1995, no resources recovery facility or solid waste facility permitted under chapter 446d of the general statues may accept grass clippings for disposal.

Special Act 93-2: AAC Authorizations of Bonds of the State for Capital Improvements and Various Purposes.

Appropriates \$1,500,000 over a 2-year period (FY 93-94 & 94-95) for a grants-in-aid program to assist municipalities to establish permanent, regional Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection facilities. The maximum grant will be \$250,000 per region. To be eligible, regions must include a minimum of 5 towns.

HHW Permanent Facility Grant Guidelines Now Available

To encourage the siting of permanent, regional HHW collection facilities, state bond funds have been authorized for groups of 5 or more towns who wish to build a facility. Grants of up to \$250,000 will be awarded. To receive a copy of the grant guidelines, contact Tom Metzner at 566-8722.

Department Begins New Series On Source Reduction

A new series of fact sheets on waste reduction, titled "Resourceful Shopping", is now available. This series is designed to encourage consumers to generate less waste for disposal. The fact sheets available now are; "The Price of A Package", "Plastic Bottle Coding - What's In A Number?" and "Plastics Recycling". Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of one or all of the fact sheets in this series can call Meg Enkler at 566-8722.



"Buy Recycled" Posters and other Promotional Materials Available

Two new full-color 11" X 17" posters are available free of charge from DEP's Recycling Unit. The posters encourage the purchase of items with recycled content for both the office and the home. A brochure "About Hazardous Products in the Home" and their alternatives can be ordered in quantity for distribution at your community's fall household hazardous waste collection day. Newly arrived "Auto Recycler" Wheels and "Eco-writer" pencils (made from recycled paper) make excellent giveaways at schools, fairs or special town events. Contact Meg Enkler at 566-8722 for information on the quantities available and how to order.

New Staff Joins DEP Recycling Program

Earl Beebe and Meg Enkler have recently joined the Recycling Program staff. Earl will be working to expand the composting program and on developing options for bulky waste disposal. Earl has a B.S. in Animal Science from the University of Connecticut's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Prior to joining the Department, Earl worked as an independent consultant doing environmental assessments and wetland delineations. Before working as a consultant, Earl was employed for 5 years by the USDA Soil Conservation Service.

Meg is the new Recycling and Source Reduction Education Coordinator. Meg has a B.A. in Environmental Studies from Brown University and a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Hartford. Before joining the Recycling Unit, Meg was the District Manager for the Litchfield County Soil and Water Conservation District. Previous to working for the District, Meg was employed by Connecticut Humane Society in Newington as Assistant Director of Education. Meg's duties will cover all aspects of recycling/source reduction education and include designing and distributing new materials to promote source reduction and the purchase of products with recycled content.

Hampton/Scotland are First Towns to Submit Annual Recycling Report

Congratulations to Hampton/Scotland for being the first towns to provide the DEP with annual recycling tonnage data. A reminder to those of you still completing the forms...they are due August 31, 1993.

Meetings

BioCycle Northeast Conference "Composting and Recycling ... 50% and Beyond" will be held September 20 - 22, 1993, at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine. For more information, contact (215) 967-4135.

Construction Waste & Demolition Debris Recycling, sponsored by Resource Recovery Report, will be held September 22 - 24, 1993, at the Ramada Inn near the Philadelphia, PA, international airport.

6th International Conference on Ash Management & Utilization, also sponsored by Resource Recovery Report, will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA from November 16-17, 1993. For more information on either conference, contact Richard Will at 1-800-627-8913.

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